

Sciences Act. My bill seeks to encourage academic rigor in scientific education by beginning at the lower grades through the study of the environmental sciences and the use of hands-on recycling.

This, of course, is the year of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and I hope that my bill will be included in the act. I have two goals here. The first comes from what I understand to be the difficulty of imparting and explaining scientific ideas and concepts, some of them fairly abstract, to elementary schoolchildren.

As a result of this difficulty, in the elementary grades, children are often relegated to "play science." This "play science" not only does not prepare them for science; it turns them off of science.

Secondly, I believe that hands-on recycling will help children learn at an early age habits that conserve our resources at the same time that it will help concretize their interest in science and their understanding of science. By the time many youngsters are exposed to science in high schools, large numbers of them have lost interest or are simply unready for the rigors that are necessary to become proficient.

We are suffering from starting too late to interest children in science. We are suffering because of the reduced pool of scientists and scientific experts.

Increasingly, many of our seats in colleges and universities are filled by young people from abroad, coming here to study science because we have the best science in the world. Part of the impetus for my bill comes from my experience in recruiting my own D.C. youngsters to the military academies.

I am pressing my own school system, the D.C. public schools, to begin science and math at earlier years so that children retain their interest in science and get prepared for the rigors of the military academies.

Although the major emphasis of my bill is scientific education for young children, I also hope to encourage recycling approaches. I believe that recycling techniques involving children—saving papers and crushing cans and talking about where these materials come from and why they degrade, etc.—will help concretize the underlying scientific ideas.

I also think children are the best messengers for recycling and for the environment. They are the real environmentalists in this society. If we want scientists, we had better get them before they get turned off and we had better learn that we must not begin in junior high school; we should begin much earlier than that or else they are off to computer games or cable or other interests.

We must begin at the beginning. The beginning is at the lower grade level. We must start there if we mean to groom scientists. We cannot start

grooming when they already have other interests. We want it started young, as well, because these young people can help us conserve our own resources by learning about recycling early and teaching us how to do it and why it is so necessary.

□ 1300

#### ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENTS ON H.R. 1480, WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1999

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, this is to notify Members of the House that the Committee on Rules is planning to meet the week of April 26 to grant a rule which may limit the amendment process on H.R. 1480, the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

Any Member who wishes to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies and a brief explanation of the amendment by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, to the Committee on Rules room, which is H-312 right here in the Capitol.

Amendments should be drafted to the text of the bill, as reported by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. KASICH (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of personal reasons.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for Thursday, April 22, 1999, on account of official business.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STUPAK, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HOLT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BILBRAY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEMINT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NORWOOD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OSE, for 5 minutes each day, on April 27 and 28.

Mr. GOSS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PEASE, for 5 minutes, on April 27.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 531. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the Nation.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, April 26, 1999, at 2 p.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1688. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule—Risk-Based Capital Standards: Market Risk (RIN: 3064-AC14) received April 14, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1689. A letter from the Managing Director, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Collateral Eligible to Secure Federal Home Loan Bank Advances [No. 99-20] (RIN: 3069-AA77) received April 14, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1690. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Federal Reserve Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Consumer Leasing [Regulation M; Docket No. R-1028] received April 14, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1691. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Federal Reserve Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Truth in Lending [Regulation Z; Docket No. R-1029] received April 14, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1692. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Policy Development, Federal Reserve Board of Governors, transmitting the Board's final rule—Risk-Based Capital Standards: Market Risk [Regulations H and Y; Docket No. R-0996] received April 19, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

1693. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel Division of Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (RIN: 1840-AC59) received April 16, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1694. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department